



TODD ROKITA
SECRETARY OF STATE

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STATE OF INDIANA

August 31, 2010

Dear Candidate,

Congratulations on your decision to run for the Indiana General Assembly. I applaud you for putting your name on the ballot this fall in the hopes of representing your fellow Hoosiers.

As your Secretary of State and Indiana's Chief Election Officer, I am strongly advocating for redistricting reform in Indiana. My proposal, called Rethinking Redistricting, calls for more sensible criteria to be used to redraw the state's legislative and congressional districts following the 2010 census. This proposal aims to ensure communities of interest are respected and people are put before politics.

In September 2009, I began talking with Hoosiers about the problems with the current redistricting process. I have traveled the state to share how redistricting can be better accomplished through a set of criteria that will increase accountability and ensure healthy competition for our legislative districts. The five key criteria to Rethinking Redistricting are:

- **Keeping communities of interest together.**
- **Creating more compact and geographically uniform districts.**
- **Reducing voters' confusion about who represents them by following known political boundaries, such as county and township lines.**
- **Not using political data for partisan purposes including the addresses of incumbents or potential challengers, voting history and election returns.**
- **"Nesting" two house districts within the existing lines of a senate district.**

Since unveiling this initiative last fall, over 8,000 constituents have visited the Rethinking Redistricting website, www.RethinkingRedistricting.com, to learn more about redistricting reform, and more than 1,300 people have sent messages in support of the proposal to their state legislators.

I believe redistricting reform is a threshold issue facing our state in 2011. As a potential member of the 117th Indiana General Assembly, you may be one of the 150 select Hoosiers who will determine the make up of the state's legislative and congressional districts for the next decade. If you would like to learn more about this important public policy initiative or incorporate it into your platform, I would encourage you to visit www.RethinkingRedistricting.com as well as review the enclosed brochure.

Additionally, if you have any questions about Rethinking Redistricting, please contact Jim Gavin, my communications director, at (317) 233-8655 or at jgavin@sos.in.gov.



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Once again, thank you for your commitment to the people of Indiana and best of luck on November 2nd.

Sincerely,

CC: All filed state legislative candidates